



INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT

2006-10-0284

May 28, 2008

FSSA OFFENDER CROSS-MATCH

Inspector General David O. Thomas, after an investigation by the FSSA Compliance Division, reports as follows:

This was an investigation by the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) where the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) provided assistance. A computer program was purchased by FSSA which analyzed the names of persons who had applied for and were receiving FSSA public assistance, but were failing to disclose in their applications that they were ineligible due to a prior criminal conviction. In September 2006, a request was made to the OIG by the investigators of the FSSA Compliance Division, for assistance in obtaining reliable criminal record data on current Indiana Food Stamp and Temporary Assistance to Families (TANF) recipients. According to federal regulations, individuals are ineligible to receive Food Stamps or TANF if convicted of a federal or state felony, which has two elements: (1) the offense is one involving the possession, use, or distribution of a controlled substance, and (2) the date of the criminal act is after August 22, 1996.

The OIG assisted the project by coordinating a meeting with Department of Correction (DOC) employees who made available DOC data revealing the disqualifying criminal convictions. As a result of these efforts, it was reported to the OIG that nine persons were criminally charged in Marion County for the offense of welfare fraud, with these trials lasting into early 2008. The OIG stands ready to provide further assistance to FSSA on this project upon request.

Dated this 28th day of May, 2008.



David O. Thomas, Inspector General